

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 282853

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, CGEN, BU, US

SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILY CASE OF ATANAS SLAVOV

REF :(A) SOFIA 2313; (B) SOFIA 2381

1. DEPT CONFERRED WITH SLAVOV NOVEMBER 21. SLAVOV SAID THAT, AS FAR AS HE KNOWS, HIS WIFE HAS NOT YET FORMALLY APPLIED FOR A BULGARIAN PASSPORT OR FOR PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE. THE PROBLEM IS, AS NOTED IN REFTEL A, THAT SHE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO ASSEMBLE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION, SUCH AS A LETTER FROM HER EMPLOYER, THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES. SLAVOV SAID THAT SHE HAS CONTACTED MILKO TARABANOV, PRESIDENT, INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION GROUP, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WHO SAID HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO TO HELP HER BUT THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DO MUCH SO SOON AFTER THE DEFECTION OF KOSTOV IN PARIS. SHE ALSO EVIDENTLY TRIED TO SEE G. DIAGAROV, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE STATE COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES, BUT HE REFUSED TO SEE HER. SLAVOV DOES NOT KNOW IF SHE HAS ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT ANYONE IN THE BULGARIAN PASSPORT OFFICE.

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2. SLAVOV GAVE DEPT A COPY OF A LETTER FROM REP. EDWARD J. DERWINSKI, WHO VISITED SOFIA FOR THE IPU MEETING, TO TARABANOV EXPRESSING INTEREST IN THE CASE. DEPT WILL

POUCH A COPY TO THE EMBASSY.

3. DEPARTMENT HAS CONTACTED OFFICES OF REPS. DERWINSKI, ERTEL, AND WILSON AND OF SEN. KENNEDY. THEY WILL RAISE SPECIFICS OF MRS. SLAVOV'S CASE WITH BULGARIAN EMBASSY AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL A. WILSON'S OFFICE CONFIRMED EMBASSY'S INTERPRETATION OF CURRENT STATUS OF MRS. SLAVOV'S CASE.

4. PER EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT, DEPARTMENT WILL ADVISE SLAVOV NOT TO REQUEST THAT HIS WIFE RECONTACT EMBASSY AT THIS TIME.

5. DEPARTMENT HAS CONTACTED DUSKO DODER, WHO SAID HE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER AT THIS TIME NOT TO MAKE A PUBLIC ISSUE OF SLAVOV'S CASE. HE WILL WAIT TO SEE IF FORWARD MOVEMENT OCCURS BEFORE DECIDING TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ON SLAVOV.

6. DEPT COUNSELED SLAVOV THAT PUBLIC ACTION EMBARRASSING TO THE GOB MIGHT DELAY OR MAKE IMPOSSIBLE FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF HIS CASE. WE ENCOURAGED HIM TO AROUSE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN CASE TO EXTENT OF ASKING CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS TO EXPRESS CONCERN TO BULGARIAN EMBASSY. VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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